



**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Office of Workers' Compensation Programs**

**Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation; Proposed  
Renewal of Existing Collection; Comment Request**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Office of Workers' Compensation (OWCP) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: **Notice of Controversion of Right to Compensation (LS-207)**. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the address section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before **[INSERT 60-DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by mail, delivery service, or by hand to Ms. Yoon Ferguson, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Room S-3323, Washington, D.C. 20210; by fax to (202)354-9647; or by Email [ferguson.yoon@dol.gov](mailto:ferguson.yoon@dol.gov). Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail/delivery, fax, or Email). Please note that comments submitted after the comment period will not be considered.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

##### **I. Background:**

The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA). The Act provides benefits to workers' injured in maritime employment on the navigable waters of the United States or in an adjoining area customarily used by an employer in loading, unloading, repairing, or building a vessel. In addition, several acts extend the Longshore Act's coverage to certain other employees. Pursuant to section 914(d) of the Longshore Act, and 20CFR702.251, if an employer controverts the right to compensation, he/she shall file with the district director in the affected compensation district on or before the fourteenth day after he/she has knowledge of the alleged injury or death, a notice, in accordance with a form

prescribed by the Secretary, stating that the right to compensation is controverted. Form LS-207 has been designated for this purpose. Form LS-207 is used by insurance carriers and self-insured employers to controvert claims under the Longshore Act and extensions. The information is used by OWCP district offices to determine the basis for not paying benefits in a case. This information collection is currently approved for use through May 31, 2018.

**II. Review Focus:** The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- \* evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- \* evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- \* enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- \* minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of

information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

**III. Current Actions:** The Department of Labor seeks the extension of approval of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to meet the statutory requirements to provide compensation or death benefits under the Act to workers covered by the Act.

**Agency:** Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

**Type of Review:** Extension

**Title:** Notice of Controversion of Right to Compensation

**OMB Number:** 1240-0042

**Agency Number:** LS-207

**Affected Public:** Business or other for-profit.

**Total Respondents:** 600

**Total Annual Responses:** 18,000

**Estimated Total Burden Hours:** 4,500

**Estimated Time Per Response:** 15 minutes

**Frequency:** On occasion

**Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):** \$0

**Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance):** \$8,299.80

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 27, 2018.

**Yoon Ferguson,**

*Agency Clearance Officer,*

*Office of Workers' Compensation Programs,*

*US Department of Labor.*

**BILLING CODE 4510-CF-P**

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